

Early registration opens February 1, 2017!



17th Annual

Summer Fishtrap

Gathering of Writers

Roots & Branches

July 10-16, 2017 Wallowa Lake, Oregon

fishtrap.org 541.426.3623



Fishtrap

Writing & The West

PO Box 38

Enterprise, OR 97828

Mark your calendar for the 30th annual
Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers!

July 10-16, 2017

Wallowa Lake, Oregon



Keynote address: Luis Alberto Urrea

**Online registration opens February 1, 2017
at 9am Pacific Time.**

For more information visit fishtrap.org
or call 541.426.3623

30th Annual Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers: Roots & Branches

July 10-16, 2017 Wallowa Lake, Oregon

Summer Fishtrap Schedule

July 9

Outpost Check-in
and Welcome

July 10

Summer Fishtrap Check-in
Writing Workshops
Welcome & Opening Night
Program

July 11-14

Morning Workshops
Craft Talks
Open Mics
Evening Readings
Outpost Concludes

July 14-16

Weekend Gathering Check-in
Keynote Address
Panel Discussions
Craft Talks
Activities
30th Birthday Party
Closing Address

It was great getting to support such different writers. To hear all their work and think about their strengths as writers and consider how to incorporate those strengths into my writing. —2016 Summer Fishtrap writer

Join us for a week-long writing experience like no other. You'll generate new work, take risks with your writing, and connect with a community of writers and instructors — surrounded by the stunning scenery of Wallowa County.

Weeklong Workshops

July 10-16, 2017

Registration for the 2017 weeklong writers gathering is \$875 — \$795 if you register by April 1, 2017 (meals and lodging not included)

Your registration to the weeklong Summer Fishtrap Gathering includes:

- A five-day intensive workshop with the instructor of your choice.
- Admission to all afternoon craft talks, open mic readings, and special events.
- Admission to evening faculty and fellow readings.
- Admission to special Weekend Gathering events, including panel discussions, the Summer Fishtrap Keynote presentation, and Fishtrap's 30th birthday party.

Youth Workshops

Youth workshops registration is \$545 — or just \$495 if you register by April 1. (meals and lodging not included)

Do you know a kid who loves to write? Fishtrap offers two Youth Workshops to tap your student's creative potential.

- Ages 10-14: Join Cameron Scott for Fishtrap Story Lab's digital storytelling workshop and where they'll use their imaginations to create multimedia stories.
- Ages 13-17: At Anis Mojgani's spoken word workshop young writers will work on poetry, prose, and how to present their work in front of an audience.

Outpost with Craig Childs

July 9-14, 2017

Outpost registration is \$1,095 — \$995 if you register by April 1, 2017 (includes all meals and lodging)

Take a hike! Fishtrap's **Outpost** workshop promotes writing in and about the natural environment by placing writers close to nature. The gathering is intimate, the setting remote. The work that emerges paints a complex beautiful landscape, true writing of place. Outpost takes place on the Nature Conservancy's Zumwalt Prairie Preserve, a rolling grassland that stretches from the Wallowa Mountains to Hells Canyon and the Snake River. Registration includes admission to the Weekend Gathering (meals not included).

Yearlong Workshop with Karen Fisher

Tuition is \$7020 — includes registration and meals for the 2017 and 2018 Summer Fishtrap weeklong workshops. (lodging not included)

Are you ready to finish that manuscript? Fishtrap's Yearlong Workshop may be the right fit for you! This 13-month intensive writing course is modeled after low-residency MFA programs with short, intense group sessions framing a year of long-distance instruction. The Yearlong program begins at the 2017 Summer Fishtrap and ends at Summer Fishtrap 2018. In between these face-to-face meetings, participants work closely with their instructor, exchanging monthly packets of writing and discussion of your work.

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served cafeteria-style at the camp's Bailey Lodge featuring fresh local produce. Choose a meal plan from \$70 to \$250.

Lodging

Summer Fishtrap offers several lodging options from tent spots and bunkhouse lodging to private cabins. Many additional options are available within a short distance from camp. \$150 to \$900 per person, per week

Visit fishtrap.org for a list of meal and lodging options. Or call 541-426-3623.



Afternoon Songwriting Workshop

Registration is \$150

What would Summer Fishtrap be without music?

Kate Power & Steve Einhorn lead this two-day workshop, Wednesday, July 12 and Thursday, July 13 from 1-3pm. Add it to your writing workshop. Open to the public.

Summer Fishtrap Weekend Gathering

Registration is \$295 (includes meals; lodging not included)

Can't come for the whole week? Register for Fishtrap's Weekend Gathering. It begins Friday afternoon, July 14 and runs through Sunday, July 16 at noon. Registration includes **Luis Alberto Urrea's** keynote address, panel discussions, plus several other weekend activities including Fishtrap's 30th Birthday party on Saturday night.

Summer Fishtrap Faculty and Workshops

July 10-16, 2017

Learn more at FISHTRAP.ORG - 541.426.3623

DEBRA MAGPIE EARLING

The Particular Peculiar: Character Conjuring - Fiction

Let go of your wimpy characters. A new bold character is waiting to meet you. This is a hands-on WORK shop. We will perform a series of guided writing exercises to help you conjure runaway characters that will drive your story and may even steal it from you. How do we craft a character that is not only believable but also possesses that peculiar substance of reality that seems weirdly beyond our ability to craft? A character that is, well, smarter than us, and feels so real, so substantial that we have a hard time controlling her actions on the page? Some writers say characters talk to them. Are you brave enough to listen? This workshop will be fun, explorative, and a little wacky. Hold on to your pens. It'll be a wild ride.



JAMIE FORD

Storytelling Roots and the Promise of Wings - Fiction

Close your eyes and forget about publishing genres. Divorce yourself from the arranged marriage of words on a page. Instead, roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty as we search for the fundamental roots of storytelling. We'll till the soil, plant ideas, and see what lovely fruit can come from bitter places. In this generative workshop, you'll explore the four key ingredients that comprise any piece of fiction. We'll find out what kind of storytellers we are, and then we'll create characters, focus on opening pages, opening scenes, and the types of contracts we make with readers—especially agents and editors. This workshop is ideal for anyone who has never completed a novel.



HOLLY HUGHES

Interleafing Word, Place, Space & Form - Cross Genre

Poet Jane Hirschfield wrote that "a single moment's perception is more than enough to hold a world. It glitters, both beautiful and transient, amid the words' leaves."

Celebrate the interleaving of prose and poetry by returning to the rootstock that informs them both: word, place, space, and form. As the ancient Celts knew, truth, or druid, dwells in the heart of the tree. Beginning each writing session with mindfulness practice, we'll create space to write more deeply into the truth of our place, exploring our inner and outer landscapes. We'll also play with paradox: that both the constraints of form and the crossing of genres can be freeing, focusing on the lyric essay and the ancient Japanese haibun as written by contemporary writers. Moving consciously between genres, using lively writing prompts, we'll draw sustenance from our roots, so that our words' leaves might hold a glittering world.



NINA McCONIGLEY

Writing What You Know: Using Autobiography and Your Roots in Fiction

Flannery O'Connor famously said, "The fact is that anybody who has survived his childhood has enough information about life to last him the rest of his days." And then there's the old adage to write what you know. Which is great – but as fiction writers, it's sometimes safer to fictionalize what you know. In this workshop we'll talk about how to take real life experience and fictionalize it. Looking at published texts and with in-class writing, we'll discover how to use the truth to go into imaginary places. Exercises will involve responding to published stories and novel excerpts, looking into our own roots and histories, and using landscape to inspire new fiction based on our experiences.



NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

Poetry and Paragraphs - The Spacious Mind

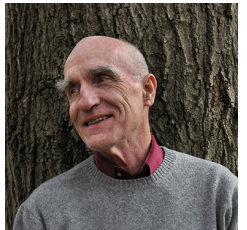
Where is the shining uncluttered field of being? How does a writing practice help us stay steady and sane? A comfortable workshop designed to strengthen roots and nourish branches of our thinking and exploring on the page - finding useful ways to simplify, ignite, and inspire ourselves. We are all beginners every day - bits of unbreakable news always within reach. This workshop will invoke the spirit of poet William Stafford - discussing his principles and practices as guides. You will return home with at least 7-10 new beginnings. No elections will be held.



SCOTT RUSSELL SANDERS

Illuminating Darkness - Cross Genre

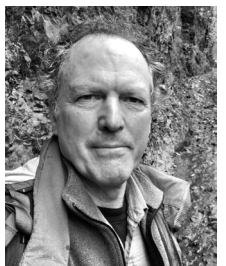
Sooner or later, we all encounter darkness—from illness, failure, loss, or other disheartening turns in our private lives. We also encounter darkness from ominous turns in the public world—an upsurge of violence and prejudice, damage to places we love, betrayal of causes we believe in, threats against community or democracy, assaults on Earth's creatures and living systems, or other violations of our hopes and affections. Writing can illuminate the darkness; it can show a way forward. A Theodore Roethke poem begins: "In a dark time, the eye begins to see." In your own dark times, what do you see? What brings relief? What stirs laughter? What offers insight, direction, courage, hope? Bring photos, books, talismans, or anything else that lifts your spirits. We'll write all week, and share what we've written. Fiction, essays, journals—all modes are welcome.



KIM STAFFORD

Rustic Thought - Poetry and Prose

Growing roots and branches for an "essay of place," this workshop invites you to compose in two directions: first, scribbling poems to root ideas, and then drafting essays that give the poetic urge a place to flourish. We will pose a question and tell a story...write an idea, a scene, and lots of sensuous detail...chronicle small mercies...gather lost treasures...write five poems as stepping stones to be embedded in a lyric essay. For poets, essay-writers, and literary citizens of witness.



LUIS ALBERTO URREA

What Lies Beneath - Cross Genre

In 30 years, a seed has had time to grow into a robust tree. That tree outside our cabin is bearing hundreds of future trees. Stories, essays, poems are growing things like this forest. What you present on the page is very much like cottonwood leaves on high branches. It is colorful, reflecting the sun, fluttering in the wind. The secret is that beneath the ground, in the shadows, there is another tree growing. Roots and branches are reflections of each other. However, without the invisible, mysterious lower depths, the tree cannot survive. Neither can your writing. I call this the understory, where the water and the nutrients and the bones are hidden. Together, we will explore all those mysteries of what lies beneath. It takes trust and intuition. And a lot of playing in the dirt. Bring your notebooks and your pens. All genres welcome.



Youth Workshops

CAMERON SCOTT

Roots, Rocks...Animation! Ages 10-14

Ever wanted to branch out your writing to include the magical world of digital storytelling? Join Fishtrap Story Lab's Cameron Scott as you explore the literary cannons of fables, myths, and persona while also learning to tell stories utilizing multimedia technology like iPads, iStopmotion, and iMovie. Each day, students will write, read, and create movies while also spending a lot of time outside. It's a student workshop rooted in creativity and fun.



ANIS MOJGANI

Youth Poetry Ages 13-17

Writing poetry takes us on a journey of discovery to unknown destinations, which can be both a wondrous and fearful thing. Reading aloud and performing one's poems can often yield the same terrifying and beautiful results. No matter what the exploration brings, discovering one's creative voice is always a positive thing. Find the space to search for that voice on paper and the voice that best suits you when sharing your work with others. In this workshop we'll explore both, crafting poems together and sharing that work aloud, practicing different styles and techniques to find what works best, as both an extension of the written word and your creativity itself.



Yearlong Workshop

KAREN FISHER

Yearlong Course in Book Length Narrative

It's a paradox, being a writer. Most of us are solitary by nature, sensitive, even timid. Yet somehow we've chosen the most dangerous job there is. To write well, originally, truly, deeply, importantly, vividly, is all about risk. It's about going to where the silence is and exposing ourselves, venturing into the unknown, with no assurance of reward. And this is why we love brave writers. Is your bold idea hiding under the bucket of something small and safe? Are you writing in circles? Too many ideas? Too few? No fear! Fishtrap's Yearlong Writers' Workshop will help you be that writer and to go where you intend to go. Karen Fisher welcomes all narrative writers: fiction, memoir, creative nonfiction, book length poems, and even strange experiments.



Outpost Workshop

CRAIG CHILDS

Writing Wildly: The Outpost

All of writing requires attention to subtle changes in color, light, tone, and smell. You are making a world for the reader, passing along a sense of motion, interaction, and place. This is the object of this retreat. We will be outside, the best classroom. In the wild, everything catches your eye. It does not come as planned, but just as it comes. Writing here is a matter of letting the story arise organically. Connecting with our environment and giving it a framework of narrative and scene, we will take five days to open senses, let the outside in, and turn it into words.



NOTE: This workshop runs July 9-14, plus the Weekend Gathering July 14-16 at Wallowa Lake.

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 1, 2017.